

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Great Falls High School

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Location

street & number 1900 Second Avenue South

N/A

not for publication

city or town Great Falls

N/A

vicinity

state Montana code MT county Cascade code 13 zip code 59405

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination      request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets      does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

     national      statewide x local

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property      meets      does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

     entered in the National Register

     determined eligible for the National Register

     determined not eligible for the National Register

     removed from the National Register

     other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Great Falls High School  
Name of Property

Cascade, Montana  
County and State

## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
	0	sites
1	0	structures
	0	objects
2	0	<b>Total</b>

### Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION / school

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION / school

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Late  
Collegiate Gothic Revival

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete  
walls: Brick  
roof: Asphalt  
other: Terra Cotta

Great Falls High School  
Name of Property

Cascade, Montana  
County and State

## **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

### **Summary Paragraph**

Great Falls High School was completed on July 21, 1930 and opened in the fall of that year. The original high school, Great Falls Central High School (listed September 1976: NR# 76001120), a Romanesque Revival three-story structure designed by local architect William White and completed in 1896, is located less than ½ mile to the northwest and is now called Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art.

Located just over one mile south and east of a bend of the Missouri River in Great Falls, the new Great Falls High School and associated Memorial Stadium is located on four city blocks between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenues South and between 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Streets South to the East of the Original Townsite of the expanding City of Great Falls. The Rocky Mountain front looms 60 miles to the west of town and the Big Belt and Little Belt mountains are found south of town. Designed by the local architectural firm of Bird and Van Teylingen and the Minneapolis firm of Croft and Boerner, the Great Falls High School reflects the Late Collegiate Gothic Revival style of the period 1910 to 1940. Defining architectural elements such as the typically crenelated parapets, Gothic arch window and door openings, tracery windows and tower are evidenced in the Great Falls High School design. The brick work incorporating five different bond patterns and the extensive use of cut sandstone details produced a structure of unmatched matched beauty and utility. The building remains a much revered historic icon in the community and is the only example of Late Collegiate Gothic Revival in the city.

## **Narrative Description**

Great Falls High School (one contributing building)

### **Overview**

Facing west, the main building aligns north-south and measures 75' wide by 300' long. A 75' by 75' classroom wing extends to the east near the center of the main block connecting the main building to a smaller north-south classroom wing (40' feet wide by 175' long). The north end of the main building displays the east-west oriented, rectangular "Old Gym" wing, which measures about 175' wide by 100' long. Constructed to the north off the north elevation of the "Old Gym" is the wrestling addition. This single-story, east-west running rectangular addition measures 150' wide by 50' long. A classroom wing measuring 175' by 175' occupies the south end of the main building; an L-shaped addition housing music classrooms is constructed off the south half of the east elevation and the entire south elevation of this wing. West of the square south classroom wing sits the industrial arts annex, an east-west running building measuring 115' long by 135' wide.

### **Description**

The dark red brick building exhibits common exterior Collegiate Gothic detailing including formed-in-place concrete foundation, a low rise concrete base, a sandstone water table, contrasting sandstone window sills, soldier course window headers at the first floor, a sandstone belt course at the second floor window sill with decorative highly articulated brick continuous bracket, soldier course window headers, sandstone third floor window sills and continuous sandstone headers at each of the stepped-out pilaster flanked bays. The walls invoke the Gothic style with a crenelated parapet with terra cotta caps. The crenels are terra cotta and typically spaced at two per bay.

A typical wall section within a pilastered bay at the west elevation consists of a recessed upper concrete foundation wall beginning at grade providing a brick shelf. A continuous soldier course supports a 3/1 Flemish variation bond to one course of alternating recessed vertical header bond finished to the water table with one flush vertical header course. The projected continuous 8" sandstone water table features a drip edge and sloped top sill detail. Above the water table there are ten courses of alternating recessed header bond terminating at the first floor sandstone window sills. On the north and south elevations, the window sill is the water table and the panel of 10 alternating header courses is omitted. Soldier course headers are typical at the first and second floor windows. At west walls above the header coursing there is one course of diagonal vertical headers with a seven course extended brick bracket pattern supporting the continuous sandstone belt-course / cornice. Second and third floor walls are typical stretcher bond between pilasters with soldier course window headers on the second floor and continuous sandstone header and band at the third floor. Above the

Great Falls High School

Cascade, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

header / band to the terra cotta parapet cap is of English bond. Pilasters and wall sections between windows at the first floor are of Flemish bond and beginning with the first course above the water table there is one diagonal header course followed vertically by seven courses of Flemish bond which repeats to the head of the first floor windows. The diagonal header courses begin and end with one stretcher. Second and third floor section of the typical pilaster are uninterrupted English bond to a sandstone sloped transition block whose top is aligned with the top of the third floor windows and the bottom of the third floor continuous sandstone header between pilasters. Final stage of the pilasters are of English bond and feature two vertical brick spears formed by a stacked course of diagonal brick extending from inside the sloped face of the sandstone transition block to the bottom of the heightened parapet cap. Terra cotta shapes similar to the brick spears continue above the parapet cap and give the pilasters a sense of vertical height.

The most predominant architectural feature of Great Falls High School is the accentuated five stage west entrance bell tower. The tower has a rusticated stepped-out sandstone and brick one-story base with a further stepped-out decorative arched sandstone entrance with three doors and a stained glass transom light flanked by individual secondary entrance doors on both sides. Three center doors with stained glass transom light and two flanking doors are repeated at the interior vestibule. The second stage shaft extends though the second and third floors and is entirely of English Bond brick coursing and contains three sandstone framed narrow centered windows flanked by individual windows aligned vertically with the first floor secondary side entrance doors at both floors. Three modal relief panels depicting reading male and female nude figures and a like sized center panel with grape leaf design are positioned horizontally between the second and third floor windows of the tower shaft. A chamfered sandstone transition course serves as a header over the third floor windows and is lined with the sandstone header at the building's typical third floor windows. Above the center three windows are larger sandstone header blocks, each with a circular carved modal. Atop the header blocks is a full width sandstone panel with bronze letters, "Great Falls High School". A triple arched opening on each of four sides and balustrade completes the belfry stage of the tower.

The opening sills are supported by sandstone brackets, double brackets at the center accentuated sandstone mullions and single brackets at the outer mullions. Beginning at the elevation of the top of the balustrade, the belfry brick corners at stages three and five are of an open design with a transitional chamfered sandstone blocks. Stage four exhibits a compound open corner design. At the top of the belfry a transition band and sandstone arched opening headers extending above into the fourth stage complete the third stage.

The fourth stage masonry is of the typical English Bond and below the sandstone transition band incorporates three sandstone heraldic shield stones which line vertically on the trilogy of openings and windows.

The fifth stage of the tower is again stepped-back with an additional step-backed standard corner at 24". This final stage includes three full height rusticated, arch topped sandstone niches on each side, extending above the parapet. An inset pitched standing seam copper pyramidal shaped roof and copper finial complete the tower.

Great Falls High School is anchored on the south by an exquisitely designed Auditorium / Theatre seating 900 on the main level and 300 on the balcony level. The Theatre is accessed from a generous foyer with a ticket booth which is centered on the main hallway of the transverse portion of the formal "T". The Theatre is replete with ornate plaster work including perforated plaster grilles and original hanging light fixtures. Proscenium, stage and fourth wall are fine examples of period theatre design. The exterior entrance to the theatre is the second most distinctive entry to the school, displaying a shallow sandstone portico with a crenelated parapet and center arch. The entrance is approached by a broad 90 degree stairway that accesses four centered doors with a arched three light transom and two side doors reinforcing the architect's intent that the school was to be community centric. The entrance leads to a fore- lobby and then to the foyer of the theatre.

An interior stair tower with sandstone arched top windows on the north and west sides, indented upper story masonry corners with chamfered sandstone transition blocks similar to the west main entrance tower. The indented exterior wall from the water table to the parapet incorporates a sandstone and brick heraldic panel above the windows in a chequy pattern signifying "Constancy". The Chequy panels above single arched top windows also occur at northeast and north west entrances / stair towers to the gymnasium along with upper floor single arched top windows, indented upper floor wall corners and chamfered sandstone transition blocks.

The tallest structural feature of the building is the 8' square English bond brick chimney which extends 47' above the roof. Four sandstone corner transition blocks are incorporated at 16' above the roof deck to form open masonry corners extending to the sandstone chimney cap which is topped with an anchored cast iron weather ring.

Another notable feature is the cantilevered 25' x 8' greenhouse located at the south elevation of vertical leg of the "T" and supported by a continuation of the concrete floor slab and bond beam with an 8 5/8" leading edge and six ornate stepped brackets. Three stacked brick header panels with double alternating recessed pairs headed and footed by diagonally laid vertical headers beneath sill height are fielded in common stretcher bond. A soldier course beginning at one stretcher from the corners extends the width of the greenhouse above the projected concrete floor slab. The continuous sandstone sill

Great Falls High School

Cascade, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

extends around the corners and returns to the building. The south face of the greenhouse has four three light windows with operable three light transoms. East and west ends of the greenhouse also have triple light windows and transoms. The original and still present 45-degree sloped glazed roof has a curved leading edge, and was later covered with light gauge metal roofing due to leakage, or excess solar heat gain. Called the "Growing Room" on the original drawings, the greenhouse is complete with bedding tables, ventilation and water supply.

The original windows were a combination of 12 / 12 and 9 / 9 wood double-hung sash, which were replaced (beginning in 1966 and programmed as a five year project) with Kalwall insulated translucent panels and a single aluminum tempered glass operating light. The window replacement project, scheduled for five years and budgeted at \$100,000, was initiated to minimize heat loss and glass breakage. The original wood window frames were found to be rotted through, allowing cold air to enter the building.

There have been four additions to the original building beginning in 1954 when a second floor added to the southeast corner of the school above the Art, Journalism and Machine Shop classrooms to accommodate the expanded choir, orchestra and band facilities by the local architectural firm of McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa established in 1953.<sup>1</sup> The second floor addition was a congruent design and featured the reuse of original parapet caps and crenels from the existing first floor.<sup>2</sup>

A second three-story north-south addition designed in 1963 by McIver and Hess Architects projects off the original east elevation of the east projecting block of the school forming a "T". The addition parallels 20<sup>th</sup> Street and created classroom space on the first floor for Homemaking, Commercial, and History, on the second floor for the Library, and on the third floor for Chemistry and Biology. The architect's adherence to original detailing was exacting, well executed and included several of the brick bonds used on the original structure. The addition created a new "Main Entrance" to the school along the originally established east – west axis.<sup>3</sup>

The third addition designed in 1975 by the local firm of Davidson – Kuhr Architects is a nondescript 120' x 100' two – story independently sited masonry Industrial Arts building located between the southwest side of the school and Memorial Stadium, connected to the school via an enclosed sky bridge from the school's main east – west hallway adjacent to the Auditorium foyer.

The fourth addition consists of a 1998, 50' x 110' Wrestling Addition connected to the north elevation of the original Gymnasium designed by the local firm, Davidson – Kuhr Architects. The Wrestling Addition's designers attempted to incorporate a simplified interpretation of Collegiate Gothic Revival elements of original school, such as the pilaster design and belt-course of the original school.

Remarkably, Great Falls High School, including the first and second additions, has retained its original interior and exterior finishes and detailing with the exception of the later windows replacement. Oak trim and cabinetry, plaster ceilings and walls terrazzo and hard wood floors, and many original lighting fixtures are in excellent condition after 82 years of dedicated maintenance.

Memorial Stadium (one contributing structure)

At the same time, Memorial Stadium, honoring those who fought and served in World War I, was constructed featuring concrete bleachers on the east side of the football field and clad in the same dark red brick on the upper west elevation of the seating. Two, two-story 256 square foot structures flank both ends of the bleacher seating with the northeast structure connected to the locker room level of the gymnasium by an underground tunnel. In 1957, a reinforced concrete grandstand that included a press box, concession area and restrooms was added at the west side of the stadium. Subsequently, several upgrades have been made to the west grandstand to improve exit stairs and railings, widen aisles, replace seating and upgrade and expand restrooms. By the fall of 2000, the east bleacher seating had been replaced along with ADA compliance work.

In 2009 the Great Falls School District appointed a Task Force "comprised of local experts in architecture and engineering as well as District personnel" to examine 23 District buildings for possible upgrades in lighting, heating, ventilation and more. As a result of the examination, Great Falls High School was recognized as a "Historic Icon" by the community and singled out for a Master Plan project which would look more sensitively at the school regarding upgrades and future campus evolution. This nomination and listing of Great Falls High School will further recognize the school's importance and place within the historic fabric of Great Falls, Montana, the Electric City.

<sup>1</sup> "McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa", Architects' Roster, American Institute of Architects – Montana, New York, 1953.

<sup>2</sup> "School Trustees Award \$110,400 in Contracts", Great Falls Tribune, March 2, 1954.

<sup>3</sup> "Federal Funds built HGHS Addition", Great Falls Tribune, September 8, 1963.

Great Falls High School

Cascade, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION, ARCHITECTURE

### Period of Significance

1930-1963

### Significant Dates

1930, 1954, 1963

### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Bird, George Washington

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Bird, George Washington

Van Teylingen, Johannes

Croft, Ernest B.

### Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance extends from 1930, the completion of the high school, and includes 1954, the date of the first addition, and 1963, the date of the second addition terminating at the historic period.

### Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Great Falls High School

Cascade, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Historic Great Falls High School defines a distinct chapter in the development of Great Falls and Central Montana. While it was not the first high school, its conception and construction reflects the beginning of the golden years in the development of the city that took its name from the natural topographic features first witnessed by the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1803 – 1805. The evolution of the City of Great Falls, Montana describes the new Country's Manifest Destiny in very human terms and events.

Great Falls High School is not only a pragmatic symbol of the growth of the new city, but also evidences a unique lineage of its founders. The Great Falls High School is eligible for listing at a local level in the National Register under Criteria A and C. Under Criterion A, the construction of the school continued the previous community service to education. Its construction was a testament to the value of a new educational model that incorporated traditional learning environments with specialized instructional areas for science, industrial arts, creative arts and formalized athletics. Its role in the educational development of the city, its direct connection to significant figures and its display of current architectural evolution all contribute to its significance under Criterion A.

The Great Falls High School is also significant under Criterion C as it reflects the Late Collegiate Gothic Revival style of the period 1910 to 1940 and is the only example of Late Collegiate Gothic Revival in the city. The school displays defining architectural elements of the style including crenelated parapets, Gothic arch window and door openings, tracery windows and tower. The brick work incorporates five different bond patterns and the extensive use of cut sandstone details produced a structure of unmatched matched beauty and utility.

---

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

### Regional History

For thousands of years prior to Anglo-Euro settlement, many different tribes or bands of Native Americans inhabited the Great Falls area. Several buffalo jumps, encampments, and sacred sites are testimony of their residency. Many tribes, including the Blackfeet, Salish, and Crow, frequently hunted the game rich area following buffalo that thrived on the grassy plains surrounding the Missouri River and its tributaries. Migration patterns of these and other animals encouraged the establishment of seasonal camps, often utilized for hundreds of years. The plains around the Missouri at Great Falls were a favored and attractive place to live.

Though created for the exclusive use of the tribes, reservations lands were often coveted by non-Indians. With much of the available lands in the West already settled in the early 1900s, grazing and agricultural lands were especially desirable including those on reservations. Under the General Allotment Act or Dawes Act, open lands on reservations not settled by Indians were opened to non-Indians on November 1, 1910. Under the Act, reservations were surveyed and individual tribal members allotted a specific amount of acreage, which replaced communal tribal holdings. The Act served as a primary impetus at this time for the westward movement of Euro-Americans; many utilized the Act to acquire property within reservation boundaries, though many also migrated to other areas of the state, such as Great Falls.

The history of Great Falls, Montana began with its founder Paris Gibson's, a Minnesota businessman, first visit to the area of the "Great Falls of the Missouri" in 1880. Seventy-six years earlier, the 1804 – 1806 Lewis and Clark "Corps of Discovery Expedition" was charged by President Thomas Jefferson with finding a "direct and practicable water communication across this continent, for purposes of commerce with Asia", also known as the "Northwest passage".<sup>4, 5, 6</sup> Explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark arrived at the site of Great Falls and found a grassy plain populated with bison, grizzly bears and other wildlife. Water from the Missouri and Sun rivers and the abundance of game were a big attraction to the explorers as they were to Native Americans who were frequent visitors to the area. On June 13, 1805 it was recorded that the Corps of Discovery reached "the great falls of the Missouri," the largest of five waterfalls on a small

---

<sup>4</sup> Woodger, Elin, Toropov, Brandon, "Encyclopedia of the Lewis and Clark Expedition". Infobase Publishing, 2004, p150.

<sup>5</sup> Harry Fritz, "The Lewis and Clark Expedition", Greenwood Press, 2004, p 60.

<sup>6</sup> Stephen Ambrose, "Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West". Simon & Schuster, New York, 1996, p 69.

Great Falls High School

Cascade, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

stretch of the river. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's journal reports of the falls, and 30 day portage around them, laid the foundation for Gibson's vision for an industrial hub between St Paul, Minnesota and Spokane, Washington. After the expedition, little else was written of the area until the early 1850's, when Isaac I. Stevens led a survey party in the area looking at routes for a transcontinental railroad. In 1879, Paris Gibson arrived in Fort Benton. He was engaged in sheep ranching and began to think about the prospects for railroads and hydroelectric power.<sup>7</sup>

With financial help from Gibson's friend James J. Hill, the builder of the Great Northern Railroad, the city of Great Falls was founded, surveyed and platted in 1883 and incorporated on November 28, 1888. Herbert Percy Rolfe and Robert Vaughn, a Sun River rancher, platted the Original Townsite. They followed the simple and symmetrical, Cartesian grid system, and Gibson, influenced by Minneapolis, included a river drive and copied the broad streets of Salt Lake City for design of the business district.<sup>8</sup> By 1890, the first of the five run-of-river hydroelectric dams had been built and Great Falls grew into a sizable transportation, commercial and manufacturing center. The hydroelectric power brought lights, machines and street cars to the prairie of Montana. Electrical applications constituted a dynamic growth industry and vital components made of copper were in demand everywhere and a new copper works in Great Falls was soon busy processing copper ore brought from Butte, Montana, "the richest hill on earth" via James Hill's railroad. By the 1890's, Great Falls residents were enjoying shaded streets, avenues, parks, electric lights and telephones.<sup>9</sup>

By the 1920s, most of the founding Great Falls planners and developers, including Paris Gibson, had died and the city experienced the negative impact of unemployment and a worsened, drought ridden, agricultural economy. The unemployment figures in the city increased to over 2,000 in 1921; the same year, 75,000 Montanans left the state. Between 1919 and 1925, 11,000 farms were abandoned dropping approximately 2,000,000 acres in the state from agricultural production. During that same time period, over one half of Montana's banks failed. The high cost of production and poor conditions coupled with depressed copper prices on the world market, produced a rapid decline of the economy of Great Falls; however, 4,500 new citizens moved into the city, many fleeing failed homesteads.<sup>10</sup>

An unexpected economic boost to the town occurred in 1922 after the greatest oil strike in Montana's history in the Kevin Sunburst Field, north of Great Falls. This strike resulted, six years later, in the establishment of large refineries in the city by Lincoln Oil and later, Philips Petroleum. The strike lured other companies such as the Mutual (Continental) Oil Company who had interests in the area as well, to construct a Great Falls office in 1928. That same year, Great Falls obtained a license for mail service and became part of the only north-south airmail line north of the transcontinental route.<sup>11</sup>

### Education in Great Falls

The first public school districts in Montana Territory were established in 1866. Continued growth in Montana in the late 1880s was reflected in the continued growth of Great Falls, requiring the town to address its educational needs. The City's public school system was established in 1886 with the completion and opening of the Whittier Building, later known as Whittier Elementary School, and began un-graded education for all students. In 1893, city voters passed an initiative to sell bonds to build a high school, but the Panic of 1893 delayed construction until 1894. Local architect William White's Romanesque Revival three-story gray sandstone design was chosen over three other proposals and featured a small central circular anchor, two rectangular wings and an eight-story, four faced clock tower.<sup>12</sup> The first class of 9 boys and 37 girls opened the school on November 1, 1896. To accommodate additional pupils, an addition was constructed on the south side of the building in 1913.

<sup>7</sup> "History Buffs Will Find City, State a Treasure Trove", Great Falls Tribune, March 25, 2012.

<sup>8</sup> Richard B. Roeder, "A Settlement on the Plains: Paris Gibson and the Building of Great Falls," *Montana the Magazine of Western History*, Vol. 42, No. 4, Autumn 1992, Page 4-19.

<sup>9</sup> William and Elizabeth Lane Furdell, *The Late 1800's - Great Falls - A Pictorial History*, Kichigia-no Webdesign, Great Falls, MT. Viewed May 22, 2012.

<sup>10</sup> Candi Zion, *Great Falls Central Business District National Register Nomination* (section 8, p. 8). On File at the State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT, 2003.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art. [http://www.the-square.org/About\\_History.html](http://www.the-square.org/About_History.html). Accessed May 22, 2012.



Great Falls High School

Cascade, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

During the 1920s, construction tended to be slow in many parts of Great Falls; however, the continuing increase in the Great Falls population and concomitant increase in student population in the early part of the twentieth century necessitated increased educational space. In 1927, the Great Falls Public School system was unsuccessful in gaining voter approval to issue bonds to build a new high school, but a second try in 1928 was approved. Construction began on the landmark \$1 million School in 1928 and completed on July 21, 1930 at a final cost of \$1.15 million. The design of the new Great Falls High School was a collaborative effort by the Great Falls architectural firm of George W. Bird and Johannes Van Teylingen and the Minneapolis, Minnesota firm of Ernest Croft and Francis C. Boerner. The 1929 Sanborn map indicates that at the time of construction, the high school and stadium were surrounded by scattered houses and vacant lots.

The construction of the building generated strong debate over whether the high school's name should be changed, with former students asking that the school's name be changed to "Charles M. Russell High School" after local artist Charles M. Russell, while businessmen in the city wanted the name to be "James J. Hill High School", the chief executive of the Great Northern Railroad and friend of Paris Gibson.<sup>13</sup>

Another debate erupted over the type of brick to be used in the building. The architects, primarily the consulting architectural firm of Croft and Boerner, specified that the exterior brick be a dark red; however some business members of the school board desired use of a lighter local brick. Investigative trips with several school board members to Western Clay Manufacturing in Helena, Montana<sup>14</sup> and Riddell & Watts brickyard in Missoula, Montana<sup>15</sup> were promoted by the architects resulting in a successful compromise to use dark imported brick for the exterior and light, locally-made bricks for the interior. The locally made bricks cost twice the price of the imported brick.

The final cost of the building when completed on July 21, 1930 was \$1.15 million; the school opened in the fall of 1930 with 1,760 students, just under the 1,800 it was designed to accommodate. The three-story school reflects the symmetrical classic T-shape, 515' N-S, 152' E-W. The central corridor interior plan with classrooms opening on to generous hallways was designed to allow maximum fenestration for the classrooms and incorporates a Gothic detailed main entrance at the west elevation forming the top of the "T" and facing the stadium. The formal symmetry is further evidenced by the main entrance's position being centered on the east – west axis of Third Avenue South and the flag pole's placement at the intersection of the east – west axis and the north – south axis of Nineteenth Street. Twin elaborate angled staircases are located at the intersecting north-south and east west hallways adjacent to the main entrance and secondary staircases are located at the north and south ends of the main hallway. The strict orientation of the site plan and building location can most likely be credited to local civil engineer G.W. Bird. The building is anchored on the North by the Gymnasium and on the South by an elaborate Theatre / Auditorium. The Gymnasium contains two basement locker rooms and a hardwood basketball court surrounded by mezzanine seating that accommodates 1,200 spectators.

Constructed the same time, Memorial Stadium was built immediately west of the high school. Named to honor those who served in World War I, the stadium contained concrete bleachers on the east side. A two-story brick building used for a meeting room, concessions, and restroom was built into the north end of the bleachers and an identical brick building was built into the south end of the bleachers.

The construction of the Gymnasium and stadium proved timely, since in 1930 the Montana Supreme Court ruled in *McNair v. School District no. 1 of Cascade County* that a gymnasium was a "necessary and essential part of a school plant" which was lacking in the original 1896 Great Falls High School by William White.<sup>16</sup>

Continued population growth, Great Falls population grew from just almost 29,000 in 1940, to just over 39,000 in 1950 to over 55,000 in 1960, required the construction of an addition on the high school in the early 1950s. The 1954 addition was designed by McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa. The additions consisted of a second floor added to the southeast corner of the school above the Art, Journalism and Machine Shop classrooms to accommodate the expanded choir, orchestra and band facilities.<sup>17</sup> The second floor addition was a congruent design and featured the reuse of original parapet caps and crenels

<sup>13</sup> Ken Robison, *Cascade County and Great Falls*. Mount Pleasant, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2011.

<sup>14</sup> Western Clay Manufacturing Company, "Archie Bray Foundation I History", [http://www.archiebray.org/about\\_us/abf\\_history.html](http://www.archiebray.org/about_us/abf_history.html)

<sup>15</sup> Riddell & Watts Brickyard, "Historic Missoula – Missoula Brick", <http://historicmissoula.org/History/BuildingMaterials/MissoulaBrick/>

<sup>16</sup> "McNair v. School District No. 1 of Cascade County (Mont.)", 87 Mont. 423, 288 p. 188 (1930).

<sup>17</sup> "McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa" Architects' Roster, American Institute of Architects—Montana, New York, 1953.

Great Falls High School

Cascade, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

from the existing first floor. Construction contracts were awarded in March of 1954 and work was completed later that year at a cost of \$110,400.<sup>18</sup>

The Great Falls High School campus functioned as more than an educational facility. The size of Memorial Stadium allowed visiting dignitaries and activities too large for a smaller venue to occur. In 1963, President John F. Kennedy presented a speech about conservation to 20,000 Great Falls attendees.<sup>19</sup>

As the population of students increased in the 1960s, a second three-story addition costing \$215,000 and designed in 1963 by McIver and Hess Architects was built at the east termination of vertical east-west "T" leg parallel to 20<sup>th</sup> Street; the addition created classroom space on the first floor for Homemaking, Commercial, and History, on the second floor for the Library, and on the third floor for Chemistry and Biology. The architect's adherence to original detailing was exacting, well executed and included several of the brick bonds used on the original structure. The addition created a new "Main Entrance" to the school along the originally established east – west axis.<sup>20</sup>

A third addition, designed in 1975 by the local firm of Davidson – Kuhr Architects, is a nondescript 120' x 100' two-story independently sited masonry Industrial Arts building located between the southwest side of the school and Memorial Stadium, connected to the school via an enclosed sky bridge from the school's main east – west hallway adjacent to the Auditorium foyer. The building is inadequate and the School District is possibly considering its removal to restore the importance of the quad or commons area between the school and the stadium, and reestablish the school's west main entrance.

The fourth addition consists of the 1998, 50' x 110' Wrestling Addition connected to the north elevation of the original Gymnasium designed by the local firm, Davidson – Kuhr Architects. The \$300,000 cost of construction was a gift from local attorney Zander Blewett and his wife Andy, and was conditioned upon the selection of the architectural firm Davidson – Kuhr. Excavation and concrete work were donated by Robert McIntyre and United Materials of Great Falls.<sup>21</sup> The Wrestling Addition's designers attempted to incorporate a simplified interpretation of Collegiate Gothic Revival elements of original school, such as the pilaster design and belt-course of the original school. The addition's design fails to achieve the correct proportional relationships of the original design signature accomplished by the 1954 and 1963 classroom additions.

While the main entrance to Great Falls High School is located in the center of the west elevation, alterations to the campus plan resulted in the unadorned east entrance serving as the main access. A tradition since 1931, only seniors are allowed to use the original west entrance.<sup>22</sup>

Although maintenance and improvements occurred to Great Falls High School, Memorial Stadium received little physical attention until 2000. By the late-1990s, a study committee noted numerous issues with the stadium including lack of IDEA compliance, crumbling sidewalks and steps, damage to the east bleacher foundations from poor drainage, and general disrepair of the structure. Following consultation with the school board, numerous repairs occurred in 2000 and 2001 including east bleacher drainage improvements, east bleacher replacement, west bleacher improvements, adding handicap accessible areas to the east and west grandstands, replacement of the track, improving the long-jump paths and pits, and enlarging the meeting/concession building.<sup>23</sup>

## Architects

George W. Bird was born (February 4, 1861) and educated in Philadelphia and arrived at the confluence of the Missouri and Sun rivers by stage coach in 1882. Eventually, Bird associated himself with Jonannes Van Teylingen, a young native Hollander. The partnership produced such Great Falls buildings as the Masonic Temple, the Emerson and Washington schools, the original Roosevelt School, the Largent School, originally designed as a junior high, and the Christian, St John's Lutheran, and First Baptist churches, as well as many other projects.<sup>24</sup> Nineteen-ten Census documents from

<sup>18</sup> "School Trustees Award \$110,400 in Contracts", Great Falls Tribune, March 2, 1954.

<sup>19</sup> Paula Wilmot, "Great Falls Remembers Favorite Son." *Great Falls Tribune*. October 6, 2001.

<sup>20</sup> "Federal Funds Built HGHS Addition", Great Falls Tribune, September 8, 1963.

<sup>21</sup> Peter Johnson, "Blewetts Give \$300,000 for Wrestling Addition at GFHS", Great Falls Tribune, October 14, 1997.

<sup>22</sup> "First Class Remembers Graduating From GFH." *Great Falls Tribune*. April 25, 1999.

<sup>23</sup> Peter Johnson "Trustees OK More Money for Memorial Stadium Work." *Great Falls Tribune*. March 15, 2001.

<sup>24</sup> Anonymous, *Early Day Architects in Great Falls*. Great Falls Public Library.

Great Falls High School

Cascade, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

Cascade County, Montana indicate, by Bird's admission, that he was a civil engineer, probably more accurately by today's definition, an urban planner; he was hired as the first City Engineer of Great Falls by Mayor Paris Gibson at the suggestion of James Hill to lay out the new city's streets, parks and boulevards.

Van Teylingen, born in 1892 in Holland, was one of the most prominent architects in Montana at the time. He designed the Masonic Temple in Great Falls, the Great Falls Civic Center and Turner Hall on the campus of the University of Montana. Other projects associated with Van Teylingen include the Art Deco Butte High School with J.G. Link & Company, and the Great Falls Art Building. In addition to his architectural pursuits, Van Teylingen was a noted internationally acclaimed chess player. He passed away in 1956.<sup>25</sup>

Van Teylingen and Bird's association on Great Falls High School was Bird's last commission and after its completion he retired from active practice at the age of sixty-nine. He lived to the age of 100 and passed away in Great Falls, the city to which he was instrumental in giving birth. Ironically, a predecessor George Washington Bird, also an architect with a distinguished career in Iowa, Kansas and Utah with William Thomas Proudfoot, was born September 1, 1854 in New Jersey and received his training at the T-Square Club in Philadelphia, a Beaux-Arts styled academy founded by John Stewardson sometime after 1883, most likely the same atelier at which the younger Bird had studied. Separated by only 7 years and a few hundred miles, this G.W. Bird also lived to be almost 100 years old, passing away in Los Angeles in 1953.

Ernest B. Croft ( 1889 – 1959 ), of Croft and Boerner Architects, Minneapolis, Minnesota, was born November 19, 1889 in Herman, Minnesota and practiced with Francis C. Boerner ( 1889 – 1937 ), the firm's business manager, from 1916 to 1920.<sup>26</sup> Croft, a graduate of the University of Minnesota in 1911, was affiliated with several firms and spent 3 years in New York City before partnering with fellow U. of M. graduate Boerner, who provided the business acumen to the firm, in 1916.<sup>27</sup> The firm was widely respected having designed the Minneapolis Municipal Auditorium and particularly noted for their high school design experience with many projects across Minnesota and Iowa. It is believed that Croft's Elk River Senior High School, Elk River, Minnesota, and Great Falls High School, both completed in 1930 were outstanding examples of an evolution in secondary school design by the firm.

Angus Vaughn McIver, born in Great Falls, MT in 1892, graduated in 1910 from Great Falls High School. He studied both Architecture and Civil Engineering at the University of Michigan. He studied with Chandler Cohagen of Billings and upon their return in 1915 they formed *McIver, Cohagen and Marshall*. McIver served in World War I as a 1st Lieutenant with the 109<sup>th</sup> Engineers 34<sup>th</sup> Division.<sup>28</sup>, <sup>29</sup> Upon his return from the War, McIver partnered once again with Cohagen; the two opened two offices with the Billings office supervised by Cohagen and the Great Falls office supervised by McIver. World War II found McIver serving as a liaison for the Corps of Engineers, Fort Peck District, coordinating the work of architects and engineers in five states. In 1950, McIver and Associates disbanded and McIver, Hess and Haugsjaa formed; this partnership lasted until 1959 when Haugsjaa passed away resulting in McIver and Hess Architects. In 1968, McIver retired. Both Cohagen and McIver pushed to certify architectural credentials and to license professionals; McIver was a charter member of the Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and was the sixth architect to ever be licensed in the state of Montana.<sup>30</sup>

William J. Hess, born in 1914 in Teton County in Montana, graduated from Montana State College earning a B.S. architectural degree in 1937. His first professional job occurred as a draftsman for Chandler C. Cohagen from 1937 to 1939. He next worked for A. V. McIver as an employee through 1953, when he became a partner in McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa. Partner Knute Haugsjaa died in 1959, after which the firm became McIver & Hess, headquartered in Great Falls. After the retirement of McIver, the firm rebranded as Hess, (Robert) Gillis and Lawrence) Vigasaa in 1969.

Knute S. Haugsjaa, born in 1915 in Pekin, North Dakota, graduated from North Dakota State College with a B.S. architectural degree in 1939. Prior to becoming a practicing architect, Haugsjaa received training in the offices of Angus McIver and J.J. Van Teylingen. He served as a member of the city-county planning board and various civic groups in

<sup>25</sup> "Noted Architect, Chess Player Dies". Billings Gazette. November 14, 1956.

<sup>26</sup> "Croft, Ernest B.", Who's Who In Minnesota, 1941.

<sup>27</sup> "Boerner, Francis C." obituary, NW Architect, v. 1 #3, January 1937, p. 15 (Board of Registration).

<sup>28</sup> Great Falls Tribute; July 25, 1974.

<sup>29</sup> *Great Falls Architects; Vol. I Early Architects*, Special Collections, Great Falls Public Library.

<sup>30</sup> Architect File on Angus McIver. On file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.

Great Falls High School

Cascade, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

Great Falls as well as the Montana chapter of the A.I.A.<sup>31</sup> He is credited with contributing to the designs of the KFBB TV Building, Our Savior's Lutheran Church Classroom Addition, St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cut bank, East Junior High School in Great Falls, and the Culbertson, Fairview and Power schools.

### Architectural Significance (Distinctive Characteristics)

Great Falls High School was designed in the Collegiate Gothic style, an evolution of the Late Gothic Revival period which in turn was an extension of the English Perpendicular style, reinterpreted by such influential architects as Walter Cope and John Stewardson.<sup>32</sup> The two first introduced this architectural idiom to America on the campus of Bryn Mawr in the 1890's. Collegiate Gothic soon found its voice at Ivy League schools such as Yale and Princeton, where President Woodrow Wilson once commented, "Gothic architecture has added a thousand years to the history of the university, and has pointed every man's imagination to the earliest traditions of learning in the English-speaking race". The ascendancy of Collegiate Gothic coincided with a rapid expansion of college campuses that occurred after the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, making it the style of choice among campus architects throughout the country. The style soon filtered down to secondary and elementary schools and enjoyed a long-standing popularity among American architects.

Collegiate Gothic was employed in either symmetrical, or asymmetrical building forms, with the unifying feature being the emphasis on mass and the Gothic detailing on key building elements. Great Falls High exhibits its stylistic references to the formal symmetry of the façade, a vertically proportioned entrance tower, gothic arched door openings, its detailed brick work and crenelated parapet.

Great Falls High School's architects found a perfect balance between the more highly stylized elements of the Collegiate Gothic's polite architecture and the school district's resources. The technical execution of the beautifully designed brick details, sandstone and terra cotta elements, and interior plaster work exhibit high levels of craftsmanship and engineering making it Montana's most notable example of the Collegiate Gothic style. The building's reinforced concrete foundations have stood the test of time without evidence of movement despite an environment with highly expansive clay soil conditions.

The school also met the needs of a new developing educational model, providing specialized space for the sciences, chemistry and biology, along with shops for industrial arts, athletic facilities for both men and women and performing arts venues.

---

### Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

---

<sup>31</sup> Architect File on Knute S. Haugsjaa. On file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.

<sup>32</sup> Late 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revival Period", Pennsylvania Architectural Field Guide – Collegiate Gothic Style 1890 – 1940: Duke University [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/late\\_19th\\_&\\_early\\_20th\\_century\\_revival\\_period](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/late_19th_&_early_20th_century_revival_period).

Great Falls High School  
Name of Property

Cascade, Montana  
County and State

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Ambrose, Stephen, "Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West". Simon & Schuster, New York, 1996, p 69.

Anonymous, *Early Day Architects in Great Falls*. Great Falls Public Library.

Bird & Van Teylingen, Croft & Boerner, Architects, Original Architectural Drawings – Great Falls High School, Cascade County History Museum, Great Falls, MT, June 19, 1928.

"Boerner, Francis C.", Obit, NW Architect, v.1 #3, January 1937, p.15.

(Board of Registration)

"Croft, Ernest B.", Who's Who In Minnesota, 1941.

"Early Day Architects in Great Falls", anonymous, Great Falls Public Library.

"Federal Funds Built HGHS Addition", Great Falls Tribune, September 8, 1963.

First Class Remembers Graduating From GFH." *Great Falls Tribune*. April 25, 1999.

Fritz, Harry, "The Lewis and Clark Expedition", Greenwood Press, 2004, p 60.

Furdell, William J., Furdell, Elizabeth Lane, "The Late 1800's – Great Falls – A Pictorial History", Kichigia-no Webdesign, Great Falls, MT.

Great Falls Architects; Vol. 1 Early Architects. Special Collections, Great Falls Public Library, Great Falls. MT.

Great Falls Tribune; July 25, 1974.

Haugsjaa, Knute S. Architect File. On file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.

"History Buffs Will Find City, State a Treasure Trove", Great Falls Tribune, March 25, 2012.

Johnson, Peter, "Blewetts Give \$300,000 for Wrestling Addition at GFHS", Great Falls Tribune, October 14, 1997.

Johnson, Peter "Trustees OK More Money for Memorial Stadium Work." *Great Falls Tribune*. March 15, 2001.

"Late 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revival Period", Pennsylvania Architectural Field Guide – Collegiate Gothic Style 1890 – 1940:  
Duke University <

[http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.ptcommunity/late\\_19th\\_&\\_early\\_20th\\_century\\_revival\\_period](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.ptcommunity/late_19th_&_early_20th_century_revival_period)

Mclver, Angus, Architect File. On file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.

"Mclver, Hess & Haugsjaa", Architects' Roster, American Institute of Architects – Montana, New York, 1953.

"McNair v. School District No. 1 of Cascade County (Mont.)", 87 Mont. 423, 288 P. 188 (1930).

"Noted Architect, Chess Player Dies". Billings Gazette. November 14, 1956.

Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art. [http://www.the-square.org/About\\_History.html](http://www.the-square.org/About_History.html). Accessed May 22, 2012.

Riddell & Watts Brickyard, "Historic Missoula – Missoula Brick",  
[http://historicmissoula.org/History/BuildingMaterials/MissoulaBrick/...](http://historicmissoula.org/History/BuildingMaterials/MissoulaBrick/)

Robison, Ken, *Cascade County and Great Falls*. Mount Pleasant, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2011.

Great Falls High School  
Name of Property

Cascade, Montana  
County and State

Roeder, Richard B., "A Settlement on the Plains: Paris Gibson and the Building of Great Falls," *Montana the Magazine of Western History*, Vol. 42, No. 4, Autumn 1992, Page 4-19.

"School Trustees Award \$110,400 in Contracts", Great Falls Tribune, March 2, 1954.

Western Clay Manufacturing Company, "Archie Bray Foundation I History",  
[http://www.archiebray.org/about\\_us/abf\\_history.html](http://www.archiebray.org/about_us/abf_history.html)

Wilmot, Paula, "Great Falls Remembers Favorite Son." *Great Falls Tribune*. October 6, 2001.

Woodger, Elin, Toropov, Brandon, "Encyclopedia of the Lewis and Clark Expedition". Infobase Publishing, 2004,  
p150.

Zion, Candi, *Great Falls Central Business District National Register Nomination*. On File at the State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT, 2003.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)  
☐ previously listed in the National Register  
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register  
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark  
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

☒ State Historic Preservation Office  
☐ Other State agency  
☐ Federal agency  
☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☐ Other  
Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Approx 16.77 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 12 479380.5 5260955.9  
Zone Easting Northing

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Block 733, TENTH ADDITION TO GREAT FALLS, S07, T20N, R04E, Including VAC STREETS & ALLEYS, BETWEEN 18<sup>TH</sup> STREET SOUTH & 20<sup>TH</sup> STREET SOUTH, BETWEEN 2<sup>ND</sup> AVENUE SOUTH AND 4<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE SOUTH.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The Four complete city blocks as described comprise the historic boundaries of the school as they existed at its completion in 1930.

Great Falls High School  
Name of Property

Cascade, Montana  
County and State

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Philip M. Faccenda, Architect, and Darrell A. Swanson, Architect  
organization Great Falls High School Heritage Foundation, Inc date April 30, 2012  
street & number 3 Anaconda Hills Drive telephone 406-727-6670  
city or town Black Eagle state Montana zip code 59414  
e-mail Philip M. Faccenda [phil@straymoose.com](mailto:phil@straymoose.com) Darrell A. Swanson [darrells@swansonarchitects.com](mailto:darrells@swansonarchitects.com)

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

## Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Great Falls High School  
City or Vicinity: Great Falls  
County: Cascade State: Montana  
Photographer: Darrell A. Swanson  
Date Photographed: 2011  
Description of Photograph(s) and number:

See Continuation Sheets

## Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Great Falls Public School District  
street & number 1100 Fourth Street South telephone 406-268-6000  
city or town Great Falls state Montana zip code 59403

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

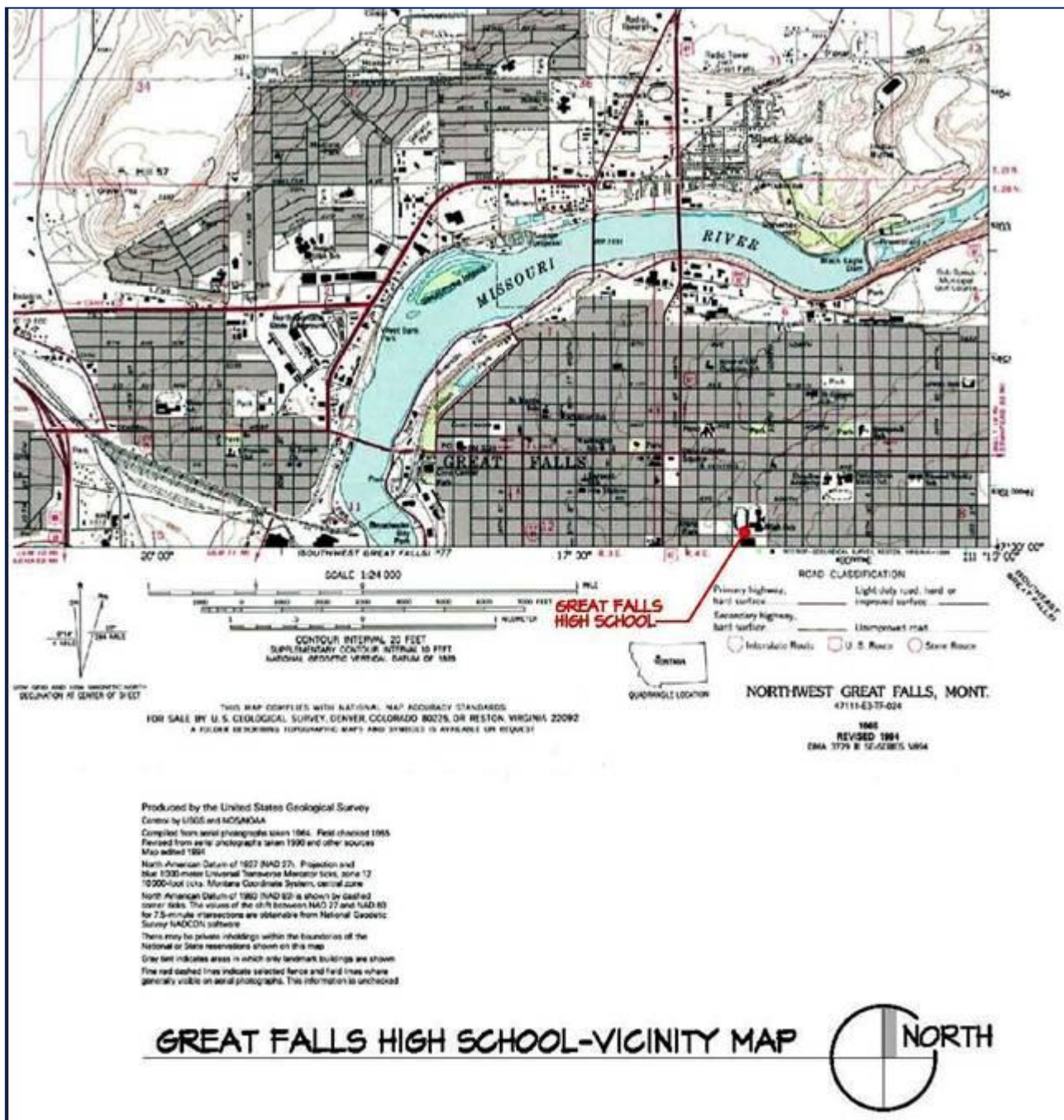
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 16

## GREAT FALLS HIGH SCHOOL 7.5 MINUTE USGS VICINITY MAP





United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 17

## DETAILED LOCATION PLAN



### GREAT FALLS HIGH SCHOOL-DETAILED LOCATION PLAN





United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

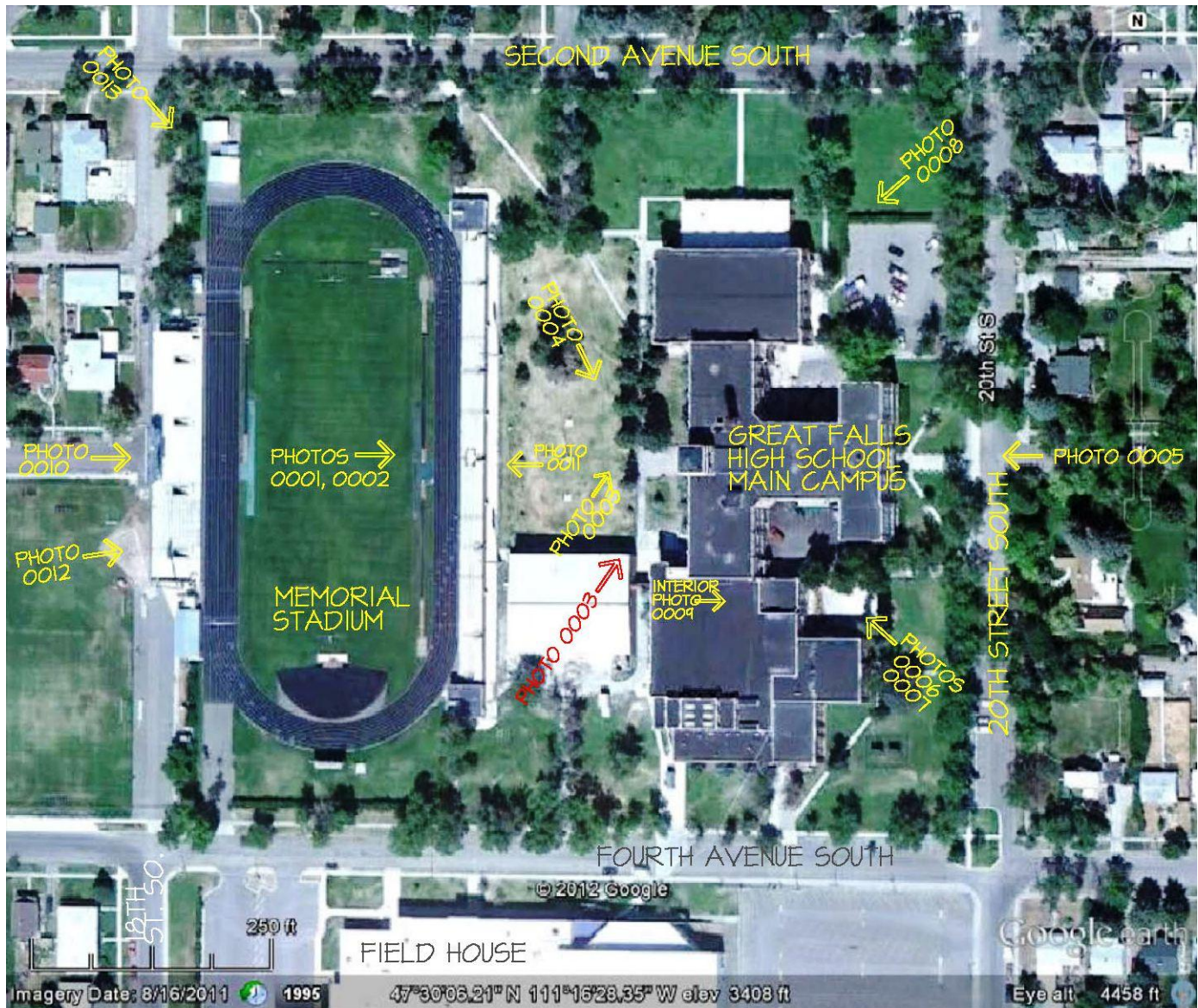
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

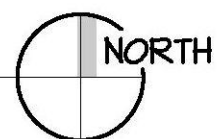
Section number Additional Documentation

Page 18

## KEYED LOCATION PLAN



### GREAT FALLS HIGH SCHOOL-DETAILED LOCATION PLAN



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

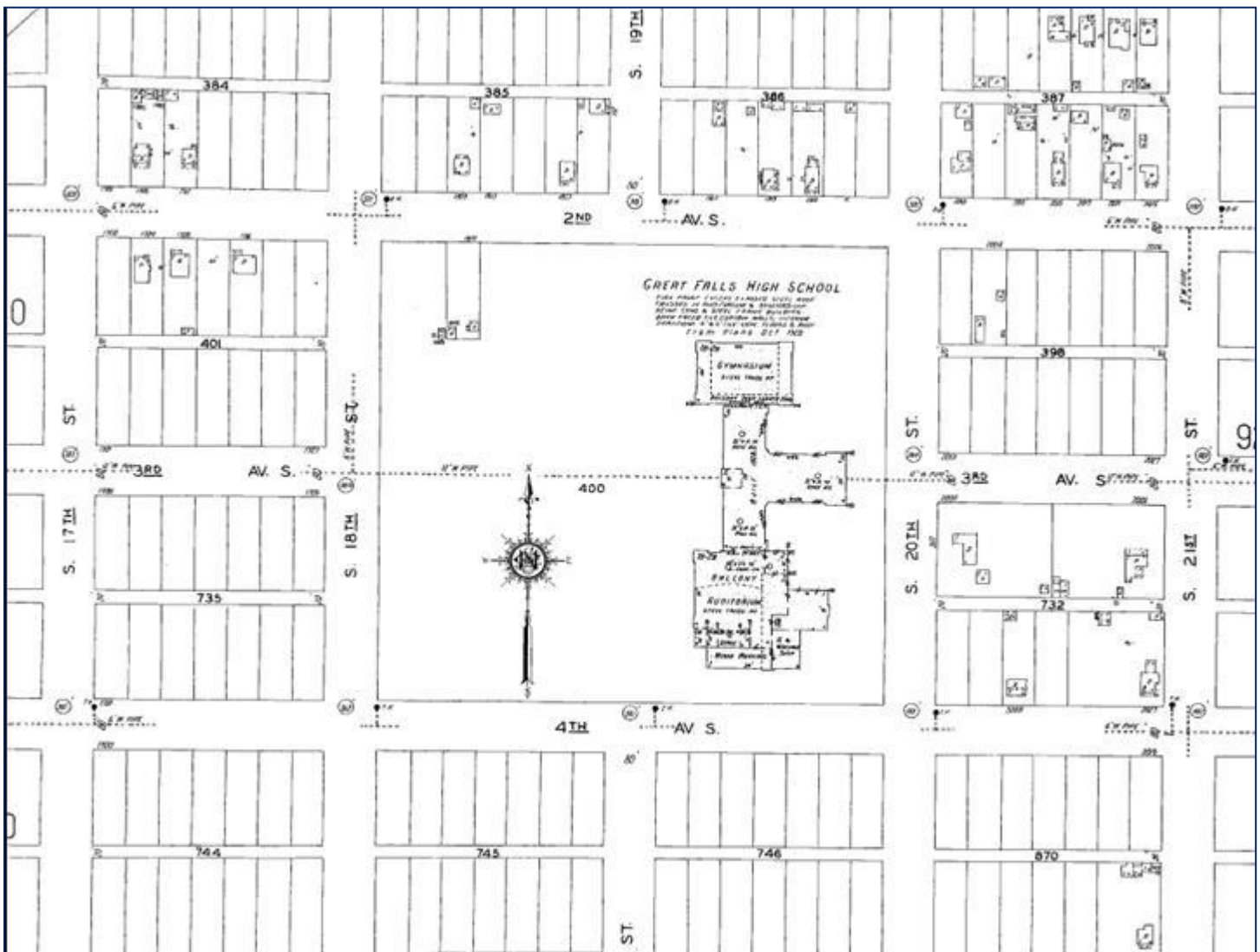
Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 19

1929 Sanborn map Showing the Great Falls High School (Memorial Stadium not yet constructed)



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

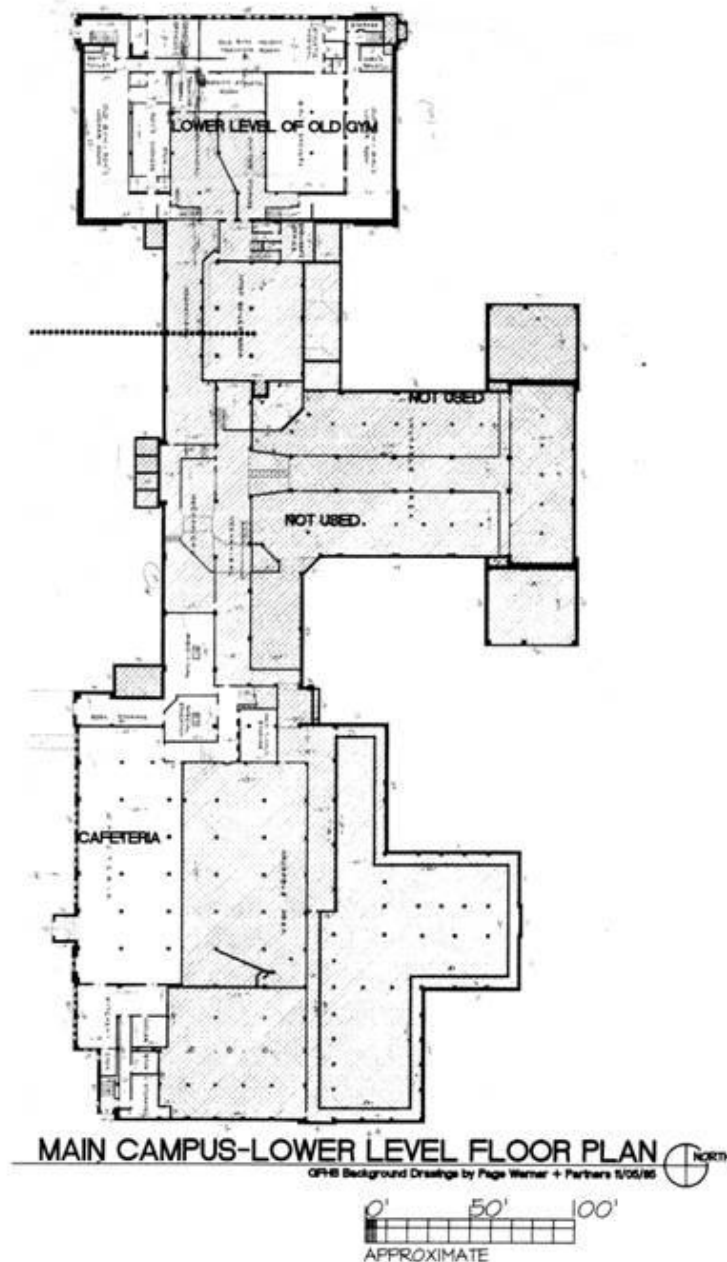
Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 20

**Lower Level Floor Plan of Great Falls High School Main Campus Building**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

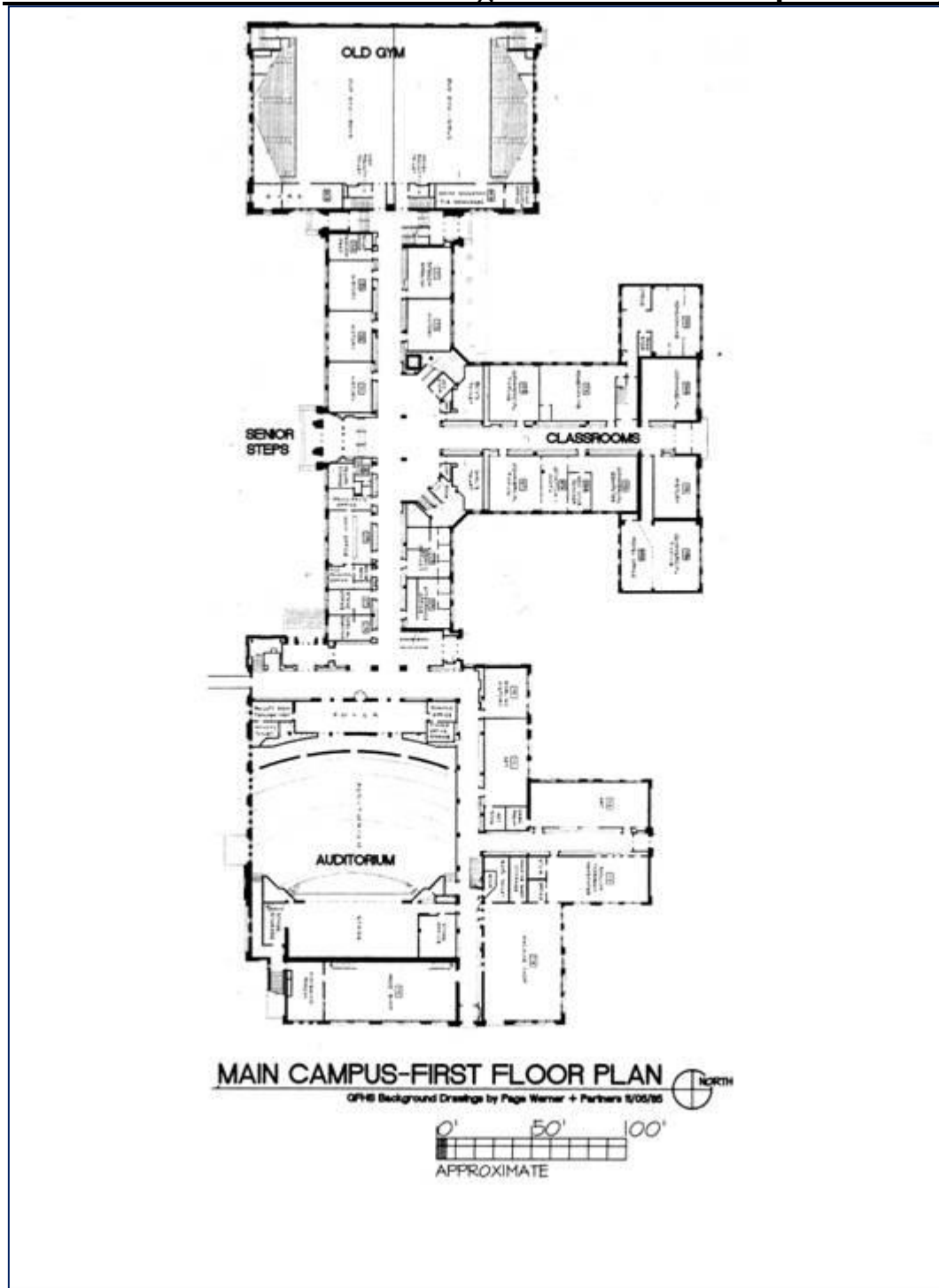
Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 21

**First Floor Plan of Great Falls High School Main Campus Building**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

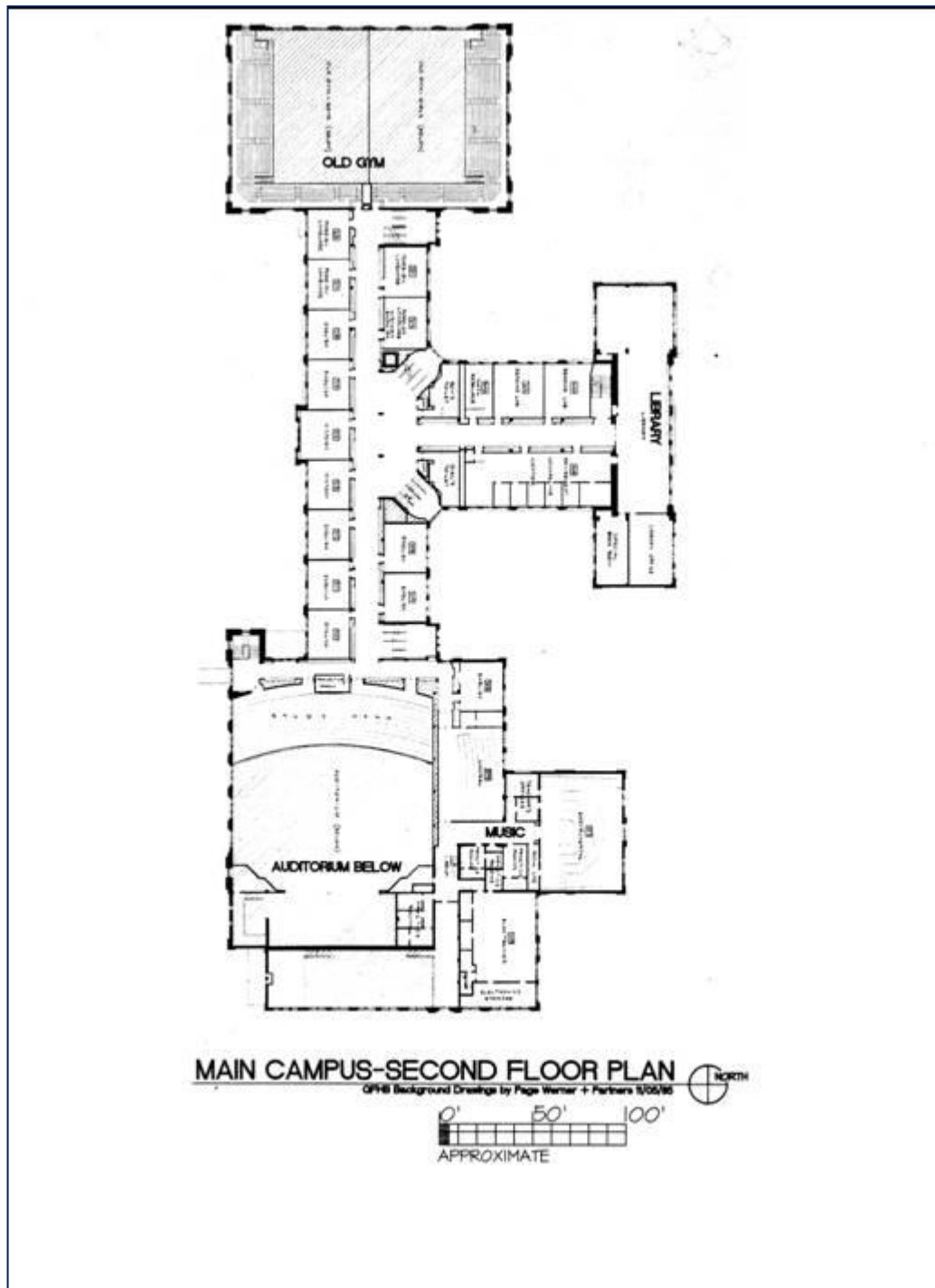
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 22

**Second Floor Plan of Great Falls High School Main Campus Building**



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

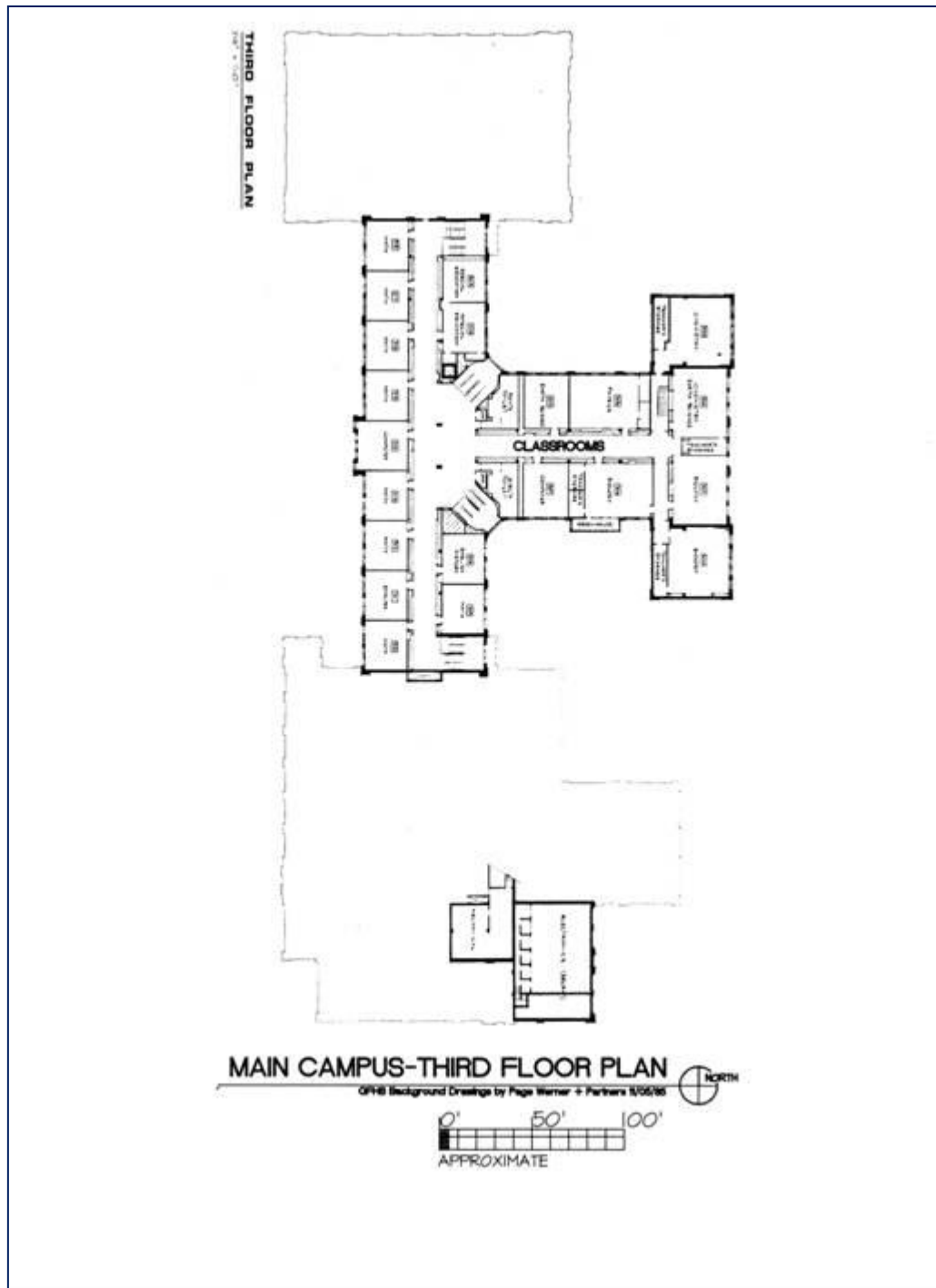
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 23

**Third Floor Plan of Great Falls High School Main Campus Building**



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

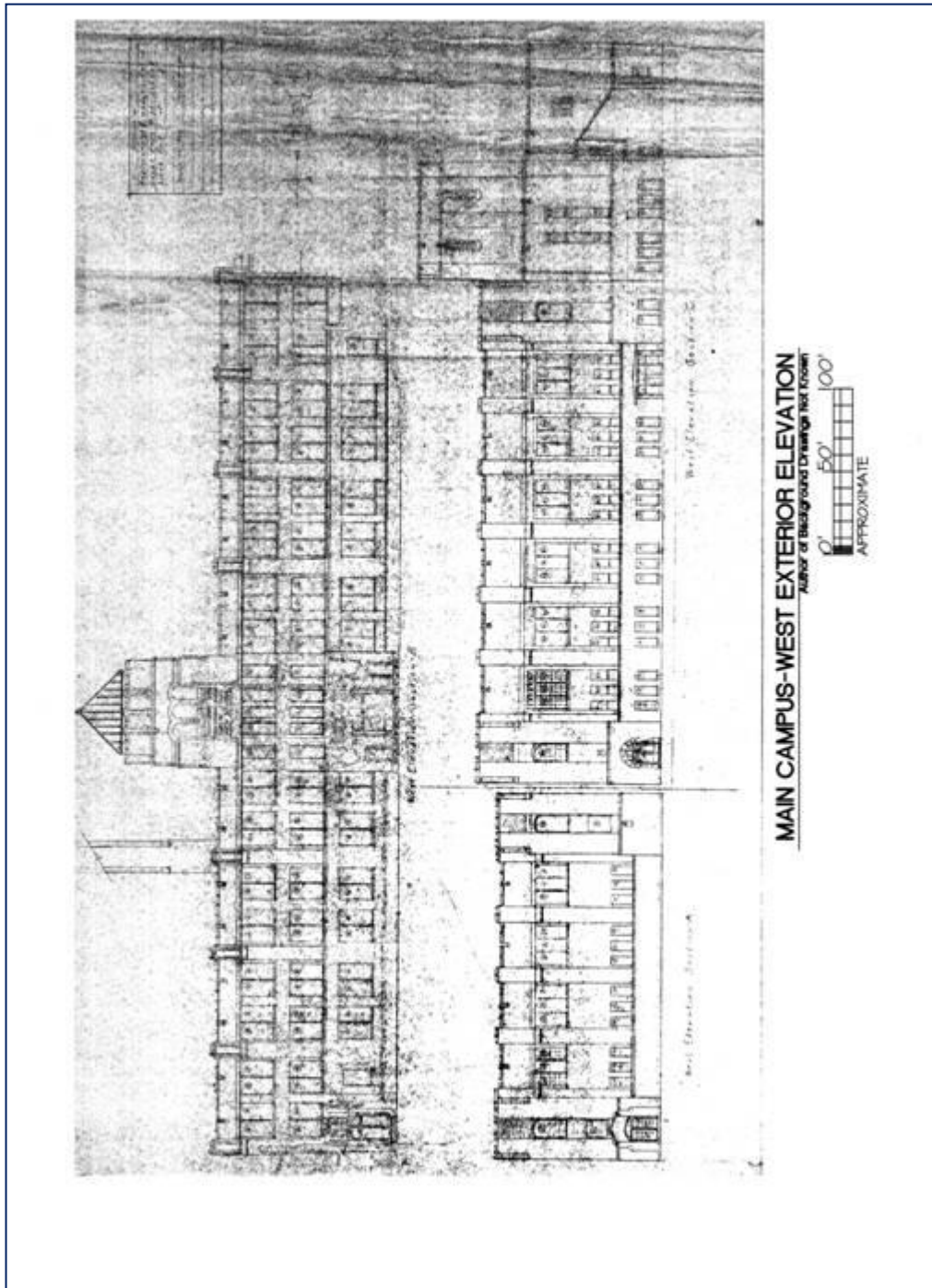
Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 24

**ARCHITECTURAL WEST ELEVATION**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

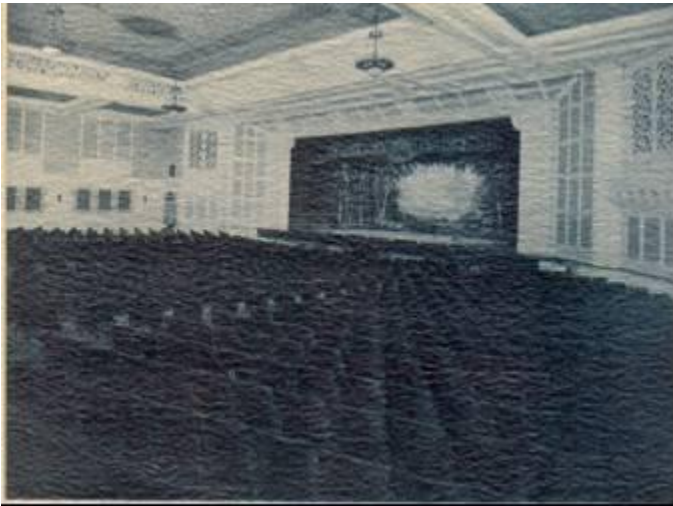
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Historic Photographs

Page 25

**Historical Photos of Great Falls High School from the Round Up Yearbooks**



AUDITORIUM-1936

MEMORIAL STADIUM and WEST  
SIDE OF SCHOOL-1937

WEST SIDE OF TOWER-1940



Biology Greenhouse

3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR BIOLOGY GREENHOUSE-1940

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

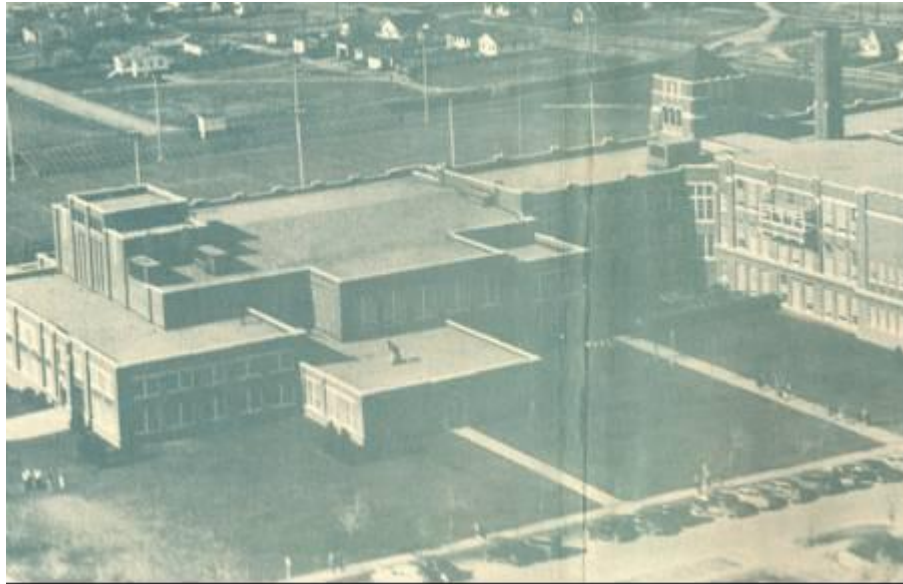
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

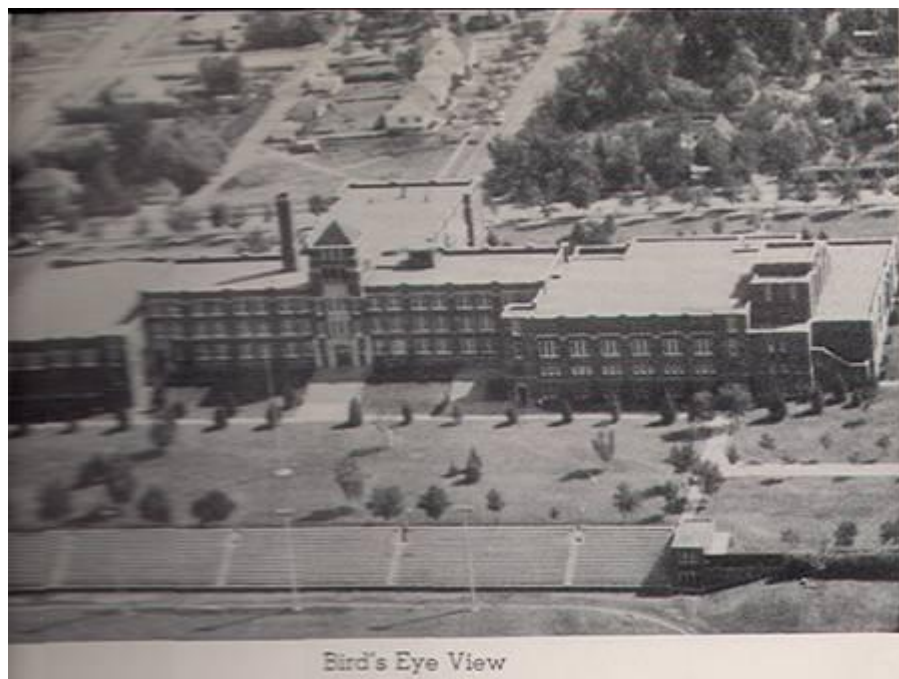
Section number Historic Photographs

Page 26

**Historical Photos of Great Falls High School from the Round Up Yearbooks**



**SOUTHEAST SIDE OF SCHOOL-1942**



**WEST SIDE OF SCHOOL AND EAST  
SIDE OF MEMORIAL STADIUM-1953**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Historic Photographs

Page 27

**Historical Photos of Great Falls High School from the Round Up Yearbooks**

Hallowed Halls

**INTERIOR STAIRWAY-1953**

Fall Daze with the Band

**WEST SIDE OF SCHOOL AND EAST  
SIDE OF MEMORIAL STADIUM-1954**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Historic Photographs

Page 28

**Historical Photos of Great Falls High School from the Round Up Yearbooks**



**NORTHWEST GYMNASIUM-1954**



**EAST MEMORIAL STADIUM - 1954**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

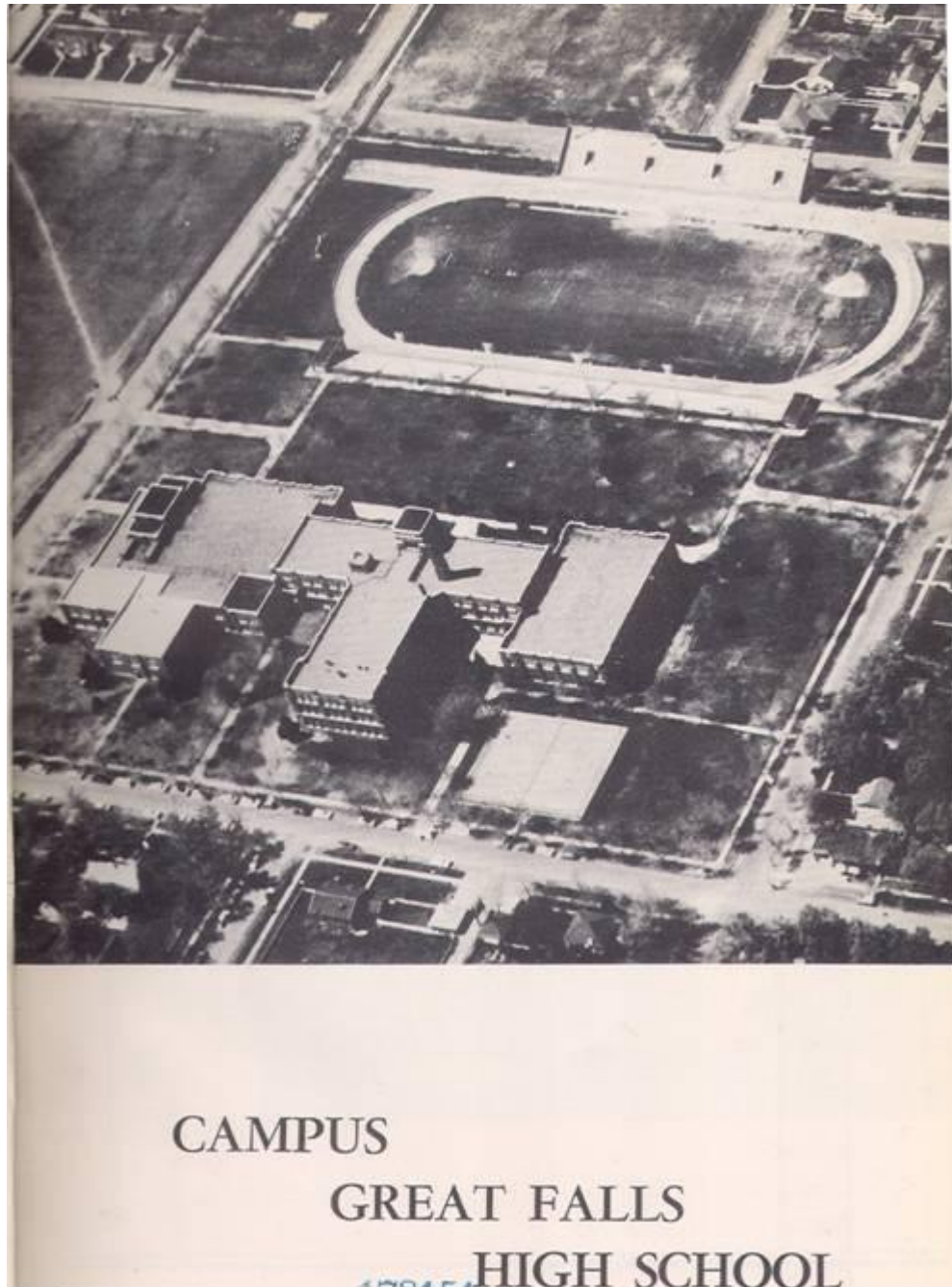
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Historic Photographs

Page 29

**Historical Photos of Great Falls High School from the Round Up Yearbooks**



CAMPUS  
GREAT FALLS  
HIGH SCHOOL

AERIAL CAMPUS FROM NORTHEAST-1958

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register PhotographsPage 30**Phototlog**

## All photos:-

Name of Property: Great Falls High School

City or Vicinity: Great Falls

County: Cascade

State: Montana

Photographer: Darrell A. Swanson

Date Photographed: 2011

## Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Photo 0001: Senior Steps And West Tower-View To The East

Photo 0002: Close Up Of West Tower-View To The East

Photo 0003: Northwest Elevation-View To The Northeast

Photo 0004: Southwest Theatre Entrance Elevation / Stair Tower- View To The Southeast

Photo 0005: 1963 Addition East Entrance Elevation-View To The West

Photo 0006: Partial Southeast Elevation-View To The Northwest

Photo 0007: South Greenhouse Elevation-View To The North

Photo 0008: Partial Northeast 1998 Wrestling Addition- View To The Southwest

Photo 0009: Hallway And Theatre Ticket Booth View To The East

Photo 0010: West Memorial Stadium-View To The East

Photo 0011: East Memorial Stadium- View To The West

Photo 0012: Southwest Memorial Stadium / West Addition- View To The Northeast

Photo 0013: Northwest Memorial Stadium / West Addition- View To The South

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 31



**PHOTO 0001: SENIOR STEPS AND WEST TOWER-VIEW TO THE EAST**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 32



**PHOTO 0002: CLOSE UP OF WEST TOWER-VIEW TO THE EAST**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 33



**PHOTO 0003: NORTHWEST ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE NORTHEAST**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 34



**PHOTO 0004: SOUTHWEST THEATRE ENTRANCE ELEVATION / STAIR TOWER  
VIEW TO THE SOUTHEAST**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 35



**PHOTO 0005: 1963 ADDITION EAST ENTRANCE ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE WEST**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number           National Register Photographs          

Page 36



**PHOTO 0006: PARTIAL SOUTHEAST ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE NORTHWEST**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 37



**PHOTO 0007: SOUTH GREENHOUSE ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE NORTH**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 38



**PHOTO 0008: PARTIAL NORTHEAST 1998 WRESTLING ADDITION  
VIEW TO THE SOUTHWEST**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 39



**PHOTO 0009: HALLWAY AND THEATRE TICKET BOOTH-VIEW TO THE EAST**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 40



**PHOTO 0010: WEST MEMORIAL STADIUM-VIEW TO THE EAST**



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 41



**PHOTO 0011: EAST MEMORIAL STADIUM-VIEW TO THE WEST**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 42



**PHOTO 0012: SOUTHWEST MEMORIAL STADIUM / WEST ADDITION  
VIEW TO THE NORTHEAST**

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number National Register Photographs

Page 43



**PHOTO 0013: NORTHWEST MEMORIAL STADIUM / WEST ADDITION-VIEW TO THE SOUTH**